[English]

Child Labour

*40 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to amend the existing child labour law;

(b) if so, the selient features of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which the above amendment is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M ARUNACHALAM) (a) to (c). There is a proposal to amend the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. The Workshop of Collectors of the most child labour endemic districts in the country, held in New Delhi in September, 1995, made a number of recommendations to make the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act more stringent and effective. Since amendments in the Act require consultation with various Ministries/Departments, it would be difficult to lay down any definite schedule in this regard.

Doordarshan Channels, Calcutta

201 SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to telecast Metro and other channels programme beyond Calcutta West Bengal,

(b) whether the people of the State are demanding this for a long time

(c) whether any steps are being taken or proposed to be taken to meet the demand of the State,

(d) if so the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C M IBRAHIM) (a) to (e) Representations have been received from time to time for extension of Metro Channel (DD II) service beyond Calcutta in West Bengal. The service however is being extended initially to State Capitals and major cities of the country in a phased manner depending on availability of resources and other infrastructural facilities. The service is presently being relayed in West Bengal by the High Power Transmitter (DD-II) at Calcutta. An additional Low Power Transmitter is presently under implementation at Murshidabad for relaying the service. Further extension of Metro channel service in West Bengal would depend upon the availability of resources and inter-se priorities. The service is however, available throughout the country, including the entire State of West Bengal, via satellite by using an appropriate Dish Antenna System.

Low Power Transmitters

202 SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the installation of a Low Power Transmitter at Rohtak in Haryana has been completed,

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be commissioned;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard

(d) whether the Low Power Transmitter installed at Meham in Haryana is functioning to its intended capacity;

(e) whether adequate staff has been posted at the Low Power Transmitter stations at Meham and Rohtak for their optimum utilisation, and

(f) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C M IBRAHIM) (a) to (c) The Low Power TV transmitter (LPT) at Rohtak is technically ready its commissioning would, however, depend upon availability of staff sanction for operation and maintenance of the project.

(d) to (f) Though the LPT at Meham has already been commissioned pending staff sanction, the project is being operated by interim staff deployment from elsewhere in Doordarshan network thereby providing only restricted transmmission. Operation of the transmitter on full capacity would depend on availability of staff sanction for the project.

Expansion of Air Services in Rajasthan

203 SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether any demand has been received from the Government of Rajasthan to increase air services in the State

(b) if so, that details thereof, and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C M IBRAHIM) (a) and (b) Requests have been received to increase frequencies of the existing